GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:682
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
INVOLVEMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the major weaknesses noticed so far in the area of sports in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to involve the Private Sector in the development and management of sports in the country;and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS(DR. M. S. GILL)

(a) The major weaknesses noticed in the area of sports in the country,relate to the uneven development of sports infrastructure,and the lack of access to organized sports and games,particularly in rural areas.

(b) & (c): Government welcomes and encourages promotion of sports by the Private Sector. For the promotion of sports at grassroots level,Government have launched a national programme titled Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Ahiyan (PYKKA),which aims at providing basic sports infrastructure and access to organized sports competition in all village and block panchayats, in a phased manner over a period of 10 years.Government provides seed capital for the promotion of sports infrastructure, and those panthayats that are able to mobilize additional funds through various sources,including private contributions, get preference for coverage on priority.

Similarly Government has set up the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) for mobilizing resources from the non-governmental sources,including private/corporate sector and non-resident Indians for promotion of sports and games in the country.In order to encourage contributions to the Fund 100% exemption from Income Tax is available on all contributions. The funds available under National Sports Development Fund mainly are used towards the promotion of excellence at the national and international level.During 2007-08,Steel Authority of India Limited contributed Rs.1.00 crore.BCCI contributed Rs.15.00 crore out of Rs.25.00 crore pledged by it for promotion and development of sports.